

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 00872 201632Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----082400 201634Z /46  
O 201625Z JAN 78  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4964

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 00872

EXDIS

FOR AMBASSADOR WHITEHOUSE FROM PATT DERIAN

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SREF  
SUBJ: INDOCHINESE REFUGEES: THREAT TO FORCE OUT TO SEA  
A RECENTLY ARRIVED BOAT IN SONGKHLA

REF: A. BANGKOK 2004; B. BANGKOK 1857

1. I WANT TO EXPRESS MY ASTONISHMENT AND DISMAY ON  
READING REF A, WHICH REACHED ME JUST BEFORE MY DEPARTURE  
FROM GENEVA. COMING ON THE HEELS OF OUR MEETING WITH  
THE PRIME MINISTER, IN WHICH BOB OAKLEY AND I PARTICULARLY  
STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF LETTING BOAT CASES LAND, AND  
RECEIVED THE PRIME MINISTER'S ASSURANCES TO THIS EFFECT  
(AS REPORTED REF B), IT IS SIMPLY NOT ENOUGH TO SAY THAT  
THE "UNHCR SHOULD STAY IN FRONT" ON THIS SUBJECT. OB-  
VIOUSLY, WE WANT AND EXPECT THEIR HELP, BUT THERE IS NO  
ALTERNATIVE TO OUR CONTINUING TO PLAY A LEADING ROLE IN  
CONVINCING THE THAI TO LET BOAT CASES LAND.

2. THIS CASE SHOULD HAVE BEEN BROUGHT TO TOM BARNES'  
AND MY ATTENTION WHILE WE WERE VISITING REFUGEE CAMPS  
JANUARY 17-18, OR IMMEDIATELY ON OUR RETURN. WE WERE  
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TRAVELING WITH THE KEY INTERIOR MINISTRY OFFICIAL ON  
THIS SUBJECT, AND COULD HAVE CONVEYED TO HIM DIRECTLY  
THE NECESSITY OF ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS TO LOCAL OFFI-  
CIALS. AS REF A NOTES, THE PRESSURE POINT ON SONGKHLA  
AUTHORITIES IS IN BANGKOK, AND WE HAVE TO CONTINUE TO  
KEEP UP THE PRESSURE WHERE IT WILL WORK.

3. I WILL BE TESTIFYING BEFORE REP. EILBERG'S REFUGEE

SUB-COMMITTEE JANUARY 24 AND NEED TO BE IN A POSITION TO  
ASSURE HIM THAT THE USG IS CONTINUING TO DO ALL IT CAN  
TO ENABLE BOAT CASES TO LAND. IN THAILAND THAT CLEARLY  
CALLS FOR CONTINUED DIRECT ACTION BY YOU AND YOUR  
COLLEAGUES. AFTER BOB AND I LANDED SO HARD ON THIS  
SUBJECT WITH THE PRIME MINISTER, THERE SHOULD HAVE BEEN  
IMMEDIATE USG FOLLOW-UP IN BANGKOK ON THIS CASE. I HOPE  
THERE WILL BE ON THE NEXT ONE.  
VANDEN HEUVEL

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEES, THREATS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978GENEVA00872  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Subject:** INDOCHINESE REFUGEES: THREAT TO FORCE OUT TO SEA A RECENTLY ARRIVED BOAT IN SONGKHLA  
**TAGS:** SREF  
**To:** BANGKOK  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/3925c7e1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
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